AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claim 1 (currently amended)   A compressed or uncompressed audio data feature description scheme,

wherein audio features are hierarchically represented by setting entire audio data which corresponds to one audio program at the highest hierarchy and describing the audio features in metadata in order from higher to lower hierarchies.

Claim 2 (previously presented)   A compressed or uncompressed audio data feature description scheme according to claim 1, wherein

said hierarchies are represented by one or more audio programs having a semantically continuous content and at least either an audio scene or an audio shot.

Claim 3 (previously presented)   A compressed or uncompressed audio data feature description scheme according to claim 1, wherein

said hierarchy is described by at least a hierarchy identifier and a feature which includes an audio type, a feature type and audio segment information classified according to the feature types.

Claim 4 (previously presented)   A compressed or uncompressed audio data feature description scheme according to claim 2, wherein

said hierarchy is described by at least a hierarchy identifier and a feature which includes an audio data type, a feature type and audio segment information classified according to the feature types.

Claim 5 (currently amended)   A compressed or uncompressed audio feature description scheme according to claim 3, wherein

said audio segment information is described by ~~any~~ either of a combination of start time code and end time code, or a combination of start time code and duration~~, a combination of a start frame/sample number and an end frame/sample number, or a combination of start frame/sample number and number of frames/samples corresponding to duration~~.

Claim 6 (currently amended)   A compressed or uncompressed audio data feature description scheme according to claim 4, wherein

said audio segment information is described by ~~any~~ either of a combination of start time code and end time code, or a combination of start time code and duration~~, a combination of start frame/sample number and an end frame/sample number, or a combination of start frame/sample number and number of frames/samples corresponding to duration~~.

Claim 7 (previously presented)   A compressed or uncompressed audio data feature description scheme, wherein

an audio program is described through one or more hierarchies;

an audio feature of each hierarchy is represented by an audio thumbnail indicating either one or more audio pieces or images;

the audio thumbnail is declared and described as a feature type;

if the audio thumbnail is the audio pieces, segment information of one or more audio pieces are described; and

if the audio thumbnail is the images, one or more file names of the images are described.

Claim 8 (canceled).

Claim 9 (currently amended)   A compressed or uncompressed audio data feature description scheme ~~according to claim 8~~, wherein

an audio feature of at least one audio scene or one audio shot is represented by an audio clip which is at least one audio piece having an arbitrary length equal to or shorter than that of the audio scene or the audio shot, respectively,

said audio scenes and/or audio shots are described through one or more hierarchies, and

wherein at least one audio clip representing said audio scenes or audio shots is represented as the key audio clip.

Claim 10 (previously presented)   A compressed or uncompressed audio data feature description scheme according to claim 9, wherein

the key audio clip is declared and described as a feature type;

if an audio type of the key audio clips is voice or speech, a voice or a speech representing the key audio clips is represented as the key word and the content of the key word is described by textual information;

the key word is declared and described as a feature sub type; and

at least one audio segment corresponding to the key word is described.

Claim 11 (previously presented)   A compressed or uncompressed audio feature description scheme according to claim 9, wherein

the key audio clip is declared and described as a feature type;

if an audio data type of the key audio clips is music, a music representing the key audio clips is represented as the key note;

the key note is declared and described as a feature sub type; and

at least one audio segment corresponding to the key note is described.

Claim 12 (previously presented)   A compressed or uncompressed audio data feature description scheme according to claim 9, wherein

the key audio clip is declared and described as a feature type;

if an audio type of the key audio clips is sound, a sound representing the key audio clips is represented as the key sound;

the key sound is declared and described as a feature sub type; and

at least one audio segment corresponding to the key sound is described.

Claim 13 (previously presented)   A compressed or uncompressed audio data feature description scheme, wherein

if audio data consists of multiple channels or tracks, a representative channel or track of the audio data is represented as the key stream;

the key stream is declared and described as a feature type; and

at least one audio segment corresponding to the key stream is described.

Claim 14 (previously presented)   A compressed or uncompressed audio data feature description scheme, wherein

an audio clip representing an event in audio data is represented as the key event;

the key event is declared and described as a feature type;

a content of the key event is described by textual information; and

at least one audio segment corresponding to the key event is described.

Claim 15 (previously presented)   A compressed or uncompressed audio data feature description scheme, wherein

an audio clip from a representative audio source in audio data is represented as the key object;

the key object is declared and described as a feature type;

a content of the key object is declared and described by textual information; and

at least one audio segment corresponding to the key object is described.

Claim 16 (previously presented)   A compressed or uncompressed audio data feature description scheme, wherein

an audio program is described through one or more hierarchies;

at least one introduction or representative audio piece of each hierarchy corresponding to an audio program, an audio scene or an audio shot is represented as an audio segment;

a sequence of the audio segments is represented as an audio slide;

the audio slide is declared and described as a feature type; and

the audio segments composing the audio slide are described.

Claim 17 (previously presented)   A compressed or uncompressed audio data feature description scheme, wherein

an audio program is described through one or more hierarchies;

at least one introduction or representative audio piece of each hierarchy corresponding to an audio program, an audio scene or an audio shot is saved as an audio file;

a sequence of the audio files is represented as an audio slide;

the audio slide is declared and described as a feature type; and

file names of the audio files composing the audio slide are described.

Claim 18 (previously presented)   A compressed or uncompressed audio data feature description scheme, wherein

if a feature type is any of a shot, a key audio clip, a key word, a key note, or a key sound, value indicating level of the feature types is described; and

multiple audio data with said feature types are described hierarchically according to the level values.

Claim 19 (previously presented)   A compressed or uncompressed audio video data feature collection description scheme, wherein

feature descriptions based on various feature types are associated with each audio video program;

the feature descriptions are extracted from multiple audio video programs based on a specific feature type;

a feature collection description is constructed by using multiple extracted feature descriptions; and

the feature collection description is described as a feature collection description file.

Claim 20 (previously presented)   A compressed or uncompressed audio video data feature collection description scheme according to claim 19, wherein

the feature type is a summary type;

summary descriptions associated with each audio video programs are extracted from multiple audio video programs based on a specific summary type;

a summary collection is aggregated using multiple extracted summary descriptions; and

the summary collection is described as a summary collection description file.

Claim 21 (previously presented)   A compressed or uncompressed audio video data feature collection description scheme according to claim 19, wherein

as an element for describing the feature collection description in the feature collection description file, the feature types for feature collection descriptions and contents of the feature types are described at a higher level; and

the audio video program identifiers referred to by each feature description and each corresponding segment information in the audio video programs are described.

Claim 22 (previously presented)   A compressed or uncompressed audio video data feature collection description scheme according to claim 21, wherein

if the feature is a summary of audio video data, summary types for summary collection and contents of the summary types are described at a higher level as an element for describing the summary collection in the summary collection file;

the audio video program identifiers referred to by each summary description and each corresponding segment information in the audio video programs are described at a lower level.

Claim 23 (previously presented)   A compressed or uncompressed audio video data feature collection description scheme according to claim 19, wherein

the feature types for feature collection descriptions and contents of the feature types are described altogether in a nested structure, whereby the feature collection can be described based on different feature types, or based on different contents among the same feature type.

Claim 24 (previously presented)   A compressed or uncompressed audio video data feature collection description scheme according to claim 21, wherein

the feature types for feature collection descriptions and contents of the feature types are described altogether in a nested structure, whereby the feature collection can be described based on different feature types, or based on different contents among the same feature type.

Claim 25 (previously presented)   A compressed or uncompressed audio video data feature collection description scheme according to claim 20, wherein

the summary types for summary collection descriptions and contents of the summary types are described altogether in a nested structure, whereby the summary collection can described based on different summary types, or based on different contents among the same summary type.

Claim 26 (previously presented)   A compressed or uncompressed audio video data feature collection description scheme according to claim 22, wherein

the summary types for summary collection descriptions and contents of the summary types are described altogether in a nested structure, whereby the summary collection can described based on different summary types or based on different contents among the same summary type.